

PUBLIC NOTICE

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Solicits Water Quality Data and Information

The Department of Environment and Conservation's Division of Water Pollution Control has the primary responsibility to assess and reassess the quality of Tennessee's rivers, lakes, reservoirs and streams. By way of this public notice, we are actively soliciting water quality data for our 2007 reassessment of the Group 5 watersheds. The public, universities, and local government agencies are invited to submit water quality data for consideration in this reassessment process.

Background - Water quality data collection, management, analysis, and assessment in Tennessee follows a five-year watershed cycle. Reissuance of discharge permits and publication of Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies are also important steps in the cycle.

Data collected since the last watershed cycle will be used to reassess each waterbody. Streams found to violate one or more water quality standards are appropriate for inclusion in Tennessee's 303(d) List of impaired waters. Once identified as impaired, waters are considered high priorities for restoration. Tennessee's current 303(d) List, the 2006 version, was formally approved by the Environmental Protection Agency in November of 2006.

Data Submissions – Biological, physical, bacteriological, and chemical data may be submitted to the address below. Electronic submissions are preferred, but are not required. Data may be emailed to gregory.denton@state.tn.us

Planning and Standards Section
Division of Water Pollution Control
7th Floor, L& C Annex
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243

Additional Factors - The Department will utilize all data that are submitted. However, it should be noted that precise sampling location information (lat/long or detailed description) is vital. Additionally, the presence or absence of a detailed Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP) will be factored into our consideration of data submissions.

Where questions about data quality cannot be easily resolved, the Department reserves the right to use submitted data to screen streams for future study rather than for current assessment.

Group 5 Watersheds *

West Tennessee	Middle Tennessee	East Tennessee
Mississippi (08010100) North Fork Obion (08010202) South Fork Obion (08010203)	Lower Cumberland/ Lake Barkley (05130205) Lower Cumberland/ Cheatham Lake (05130202) Guntersville Lake (06030001)	Sequatchie (06020001) Upper French Broad (06010105) Lower French Broad (06010107) Pigeon (06010106) Nolichucky (06010108)

* While the Department will concentrate reassessment efforts on the Group 5 watersheds, water quality information may be submitted for other watersheds as well.